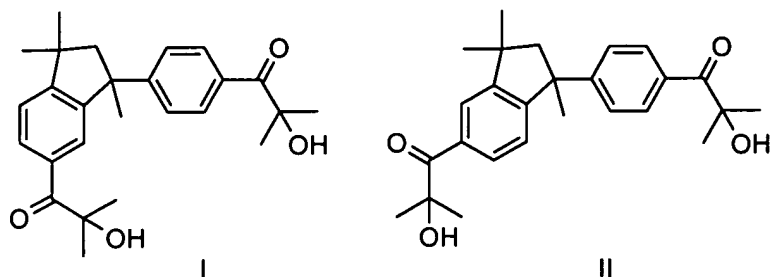


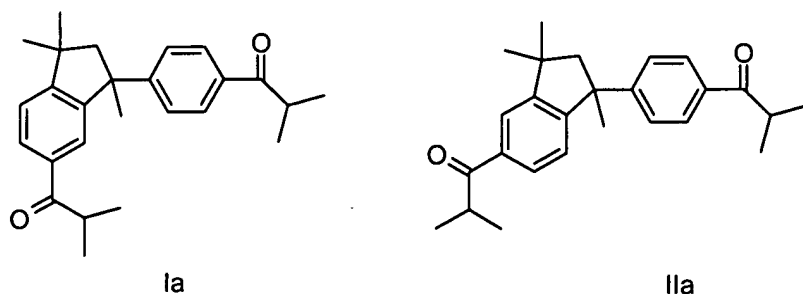
In the Claims

1. (currently amended): A process for the preparation of a crystalline isomeric mixture of compounds of formulae I and II

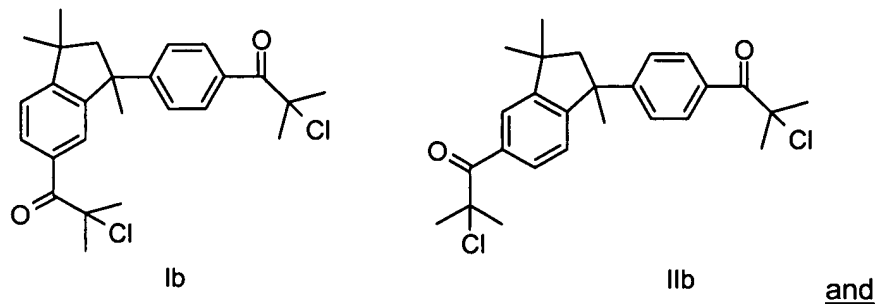


which process comprises the following steps:

a) the slow addition of aluminium chloride, in portions, to a solution comprising 1,1,3-trimethyl-3-phenylindane and isobutyric acid halide in a suitable solvent at a reaction temperature of from -20°C to 20°C, an isomeric mixture consisting of compounds of formulae Ia and IIa being obtained

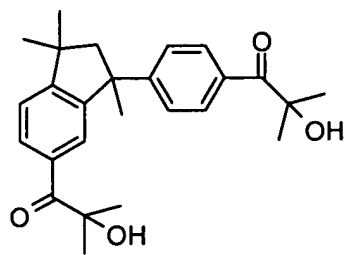


b) enol chlorination of compounds Ia and IIa, an isomeric mixture consisting of compounds of formulae Ib and IIb being obtained



c) hydrolysis of the chlorinated isomeric mixture from step b).

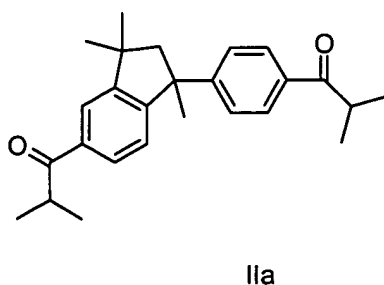
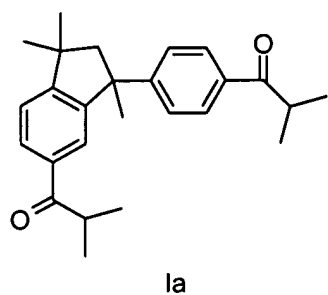
**2. (currently amended):** A process for the preparation of a crystalline compound of formula I



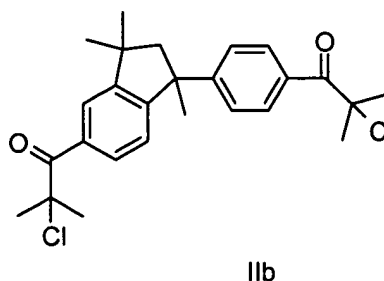
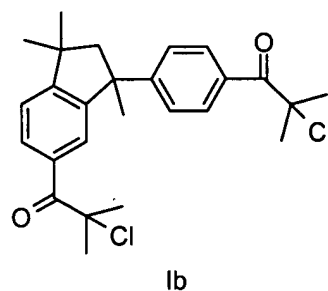
I,

which process comprises ~~steps a) and b) according to claim 1,~~

a) the slow addition of aluminium chloride, in portions, to a solution comprising 1,1,3-trimethyl-3-phenylindane and isobutyric acid halide in a suitable solvent at a reaction temperature of from -20°C to 20°C, an isomeric mixture consisting of compounds of formulae Ia and IIa being obtained



b) enol chlorination of compounds Ia and IIa, an isomeric mixture consisting of compounds of formulae Ib and IIb being obtained



c) separation of the compound of formula Ib by recrystallisation and

d) hydrolysis of compound Ib.

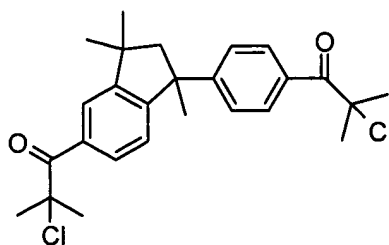
CC(C)(O)C(=O)c1ccc(cc1)C2(C)CC(C)(C)C2c3ccc(cc3)C(=O)C(C)(C)O

~~which process comprises steps a) and b) according to claim 1,~~

CC(C)C(=O)c1ccc(cc1)C2(C)CC(C)(C)c3ccccc3C2C(=O)C(C)CCC(C)C(=O)c1ccc(cc1)C2(C)CC(C)(C)c3ccc(cc32)C(=O)C(C)C

11a

**lb**



lib

d) hydrolysis of compound IIb.

**4. (currently amended):** A process according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the solvent is 1,2-dichlorobenzene and the reaction temperature of step a) is from 0°C to 5°C.

**5. (currently amended):** A process according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein pure 1,1,3-trimethyl-3-phenylindan and isobutyric acid halide are first brought together and aluminium chloride is metered in slowly in the course of from 2 to 3 hours, so that a local overdosing of aluminium chloride is avoided.

**6. (new):** A process according to claim 2, wherein the solvent is 1,2-dichlorobenzene and the reaction temperature of step a) is from 0°C to 5°C.

**7. (new):** A process according to claim 3, wherein the solvent is 1,2-dichlorobenzene and the reaction temperature of step a) is from 0°C to 5°C.

**8. (new):** A process according to claim 2, wherein pure 1,1,3-trimethyl-3-phenylindan and isobutyric acid halide are first brought together and aluminium chloride is metered in slowly in the course of from 2 to 3 hours, so that a local overdosing of aluminium chloride is avoided.

**9. (new):** A process according to claim 3, wherein pure 1,1,3-trimethyl-3-phenylindan and isobutyric acid halide are first brought together and aluminium chloride is metered in slowly in the course of from 2 to 3 hours, so that a local overdosing of aluminium chloride is avoided.

**10. (new):** A process according to claim 4, wherein pure 1,1,3-trimethyl-3-phenylindan and isobutyric acid halide are first brought together and aluminium chloride is metered in slowly in the course of from 2 to 3 hours, so that a local overdosing of aluminium chloride is avoided.

**11. (new):** A process according to claim 5, wherein pure 1,1,3-trimethyl-3-phenylindan and isobutyric acid halide are first brought together and aluminium chloride is metered in slowly in the course of from 2 to 3 hours, so that a local overdosing of aluminium chloride is avoided.

**12. (new):** A process according to claim 6, wherein pure 1,1,3-trimethyl-3-phenylindan and isobutyric acid halide are first brought together and aluminium chloride is metered in slowly in the course of from 2 to 3 hours, so that a local overdosing of aluminium chloride is avoided.

**13. (new):** A process according to claim 7, wherein pure 1,1,3-trimethyl-3-phenylindan and isobutyric acid halide are first brought together and aluminium chloride is metered in slowly in the course of from 2 to 3 hours, so that a local overdosing of aluminium chloride is avoided.